

Message Text

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61

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 EUR-25 ISO-00 COME-00 AGR-20 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 AF-10 STR-08 TRSE-00 IO-14 L-03

DRC-01 /120 W

----- 014882

R 181630Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8508

INFO AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR MX

SUBJECT: MEXICAN SUSPENSION OF COFFEE SALES TO U. S.

REF: LOU STATE 204149

AS REPORTED IN MEXICO 7623 MEXICAN COFFEE INSTITUTE OFFICIALS HAVE STATED THAT SUSPENSION OF COFFEE SALES HAS BEEN ONLY TO U.S. WHERE THEY BELIEVE STOCKS HAVE INCREASED TO A POINT WHERE THEY ARE BEING USED TO DRIVE DOWN INTERNATIONAL PRICES FOR MEXICAN COFFEE. SALES TO OTHER COUNTRIES HAVE NOT BEEN SUSPENDED, IN FACT IT IS CURRENTLY MEXICO'S POLICY TO DIVERT COFFEE SALES FROM THE U.S. TO OTHER INTERNATIONAL MARKETS AS PART OF THE GOM'S OVER-ALL POLICY TO BECOME LESS ECONOMICALLY INDEPENDENT ON THE U.S. HOWEVER, AS INDICATED IN REFTTEL, WE DO NOT BELIEVE SUSPENSION OF COFFEE SALES TO U.S. AT PRESENT TIME IS SIGNIFICANT SINCE EXPORT AVAILABILITY OF MEXICAN COFFEE IS LOW DUE RECORD LEVEL EXPORTS LAST YEAR, AND

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MEXICAN COFFEE HARVEST WILL NOT START UNTIL NOVEMBER. MEXICO'S

STOCKS AT BEGINNING 1972-73 COFFEE YEAR WERE 721 THOUSAND BAGS
AND PRODUCTION TOTALLED 3.7 MILLION BAGS. EXPORTS DURING 1972-73
TOTALLED 2.6 MILLION BAGS (COMPARES WITH 1.7 IN 1971-72) AND
DOMESTIC CONSUMPTION PLACED AT 1.7 MILLION BAGS WHICH LEAVES ONLY
121 THOUSAND BAG ENDING STOCKS ON SEPTEMBER 30 THIS YEAR.
MCBRIDE

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